



PATENT
Atty. Dkt. MRKS/0039.C1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Bernd-Georg Pietras

Serial No.: 10/621,971

Confirmation No.: 2036

Filed: July 17, 2003

**For: APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR FACILITATING THE
CONNECTION OF TUBULARS
USING A TOP DRIVE**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Frank Tsay

Customer No.: 36735

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR 1.8

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Applicant, and the Attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file, submit herewith patents, publications, or other information of which they are aware, which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

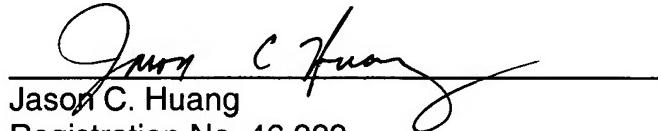
While the information submitted in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is prior art for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other possibly material information as defined under 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists.

The patents and/or publications submitted herewith are set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449.

If the sum of \$180.00 is due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) pursuant to § 1.97, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this fee, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0039.C1/JCH.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Application Number</i>	10/621,971
				<i>Filing Date</i>	July 17, 2003
				<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Bernd-Georg Pietras
				<i>Art Unit</i>	3672
				<i>Examiner Name</i>	Frank Tsay
Sheet	1	of	1	<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	MRKS/0039.C1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0479583	04-08-1992	Gonzalez, et al.		
		EP 1148206	10-24-2001	Scott, et al.		
		GB 2381809	05-14-2003	Ohmer		
		GB 2347445	09-06-2000	Metcalfe, et al.		
		WO 99/24689	05-20-1999	Collins		
		WO 99/04135	01-28-1999	Collins		
		WO 97/05360	02-13-1997	Collins		
		WO 03/074836	09-12-2003	Philip		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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